

# Darien Fire Marshal's Office Performance Measures



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Fire Marshal

# What does the Fire Marshal's Office do?

- In addition to the obvious fire investigations the Fire Marshal is charged with a multitude of responsibilities.





One of the most important is inspections of all buildings within the town excluding 1 or 2 family homes.



# How many inspections could there possibly be in Darien?

Surprisingly there are over 700 facilities within the town that require annual inspections:

- Retail businesses
- Apartments
- Educational facilities
- Places of Assembly
- General Offices
- Gas Stations

- In addition to inspections and fire investigations there are several other things that are the responsibility of the Fire Marshal's Office
- Such as.....



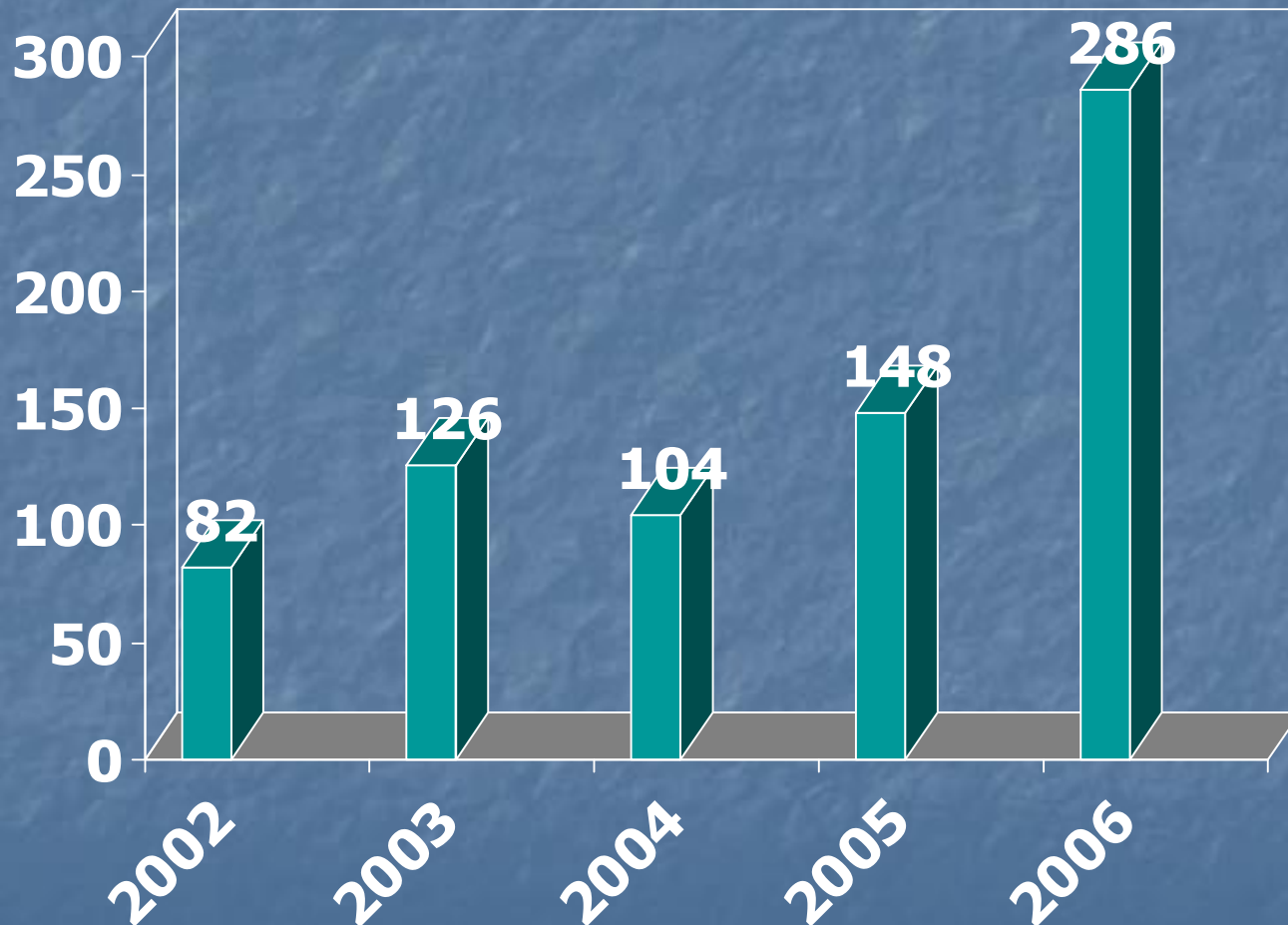
# Blasting



# Blasting Permits



# Blasting site Inspections

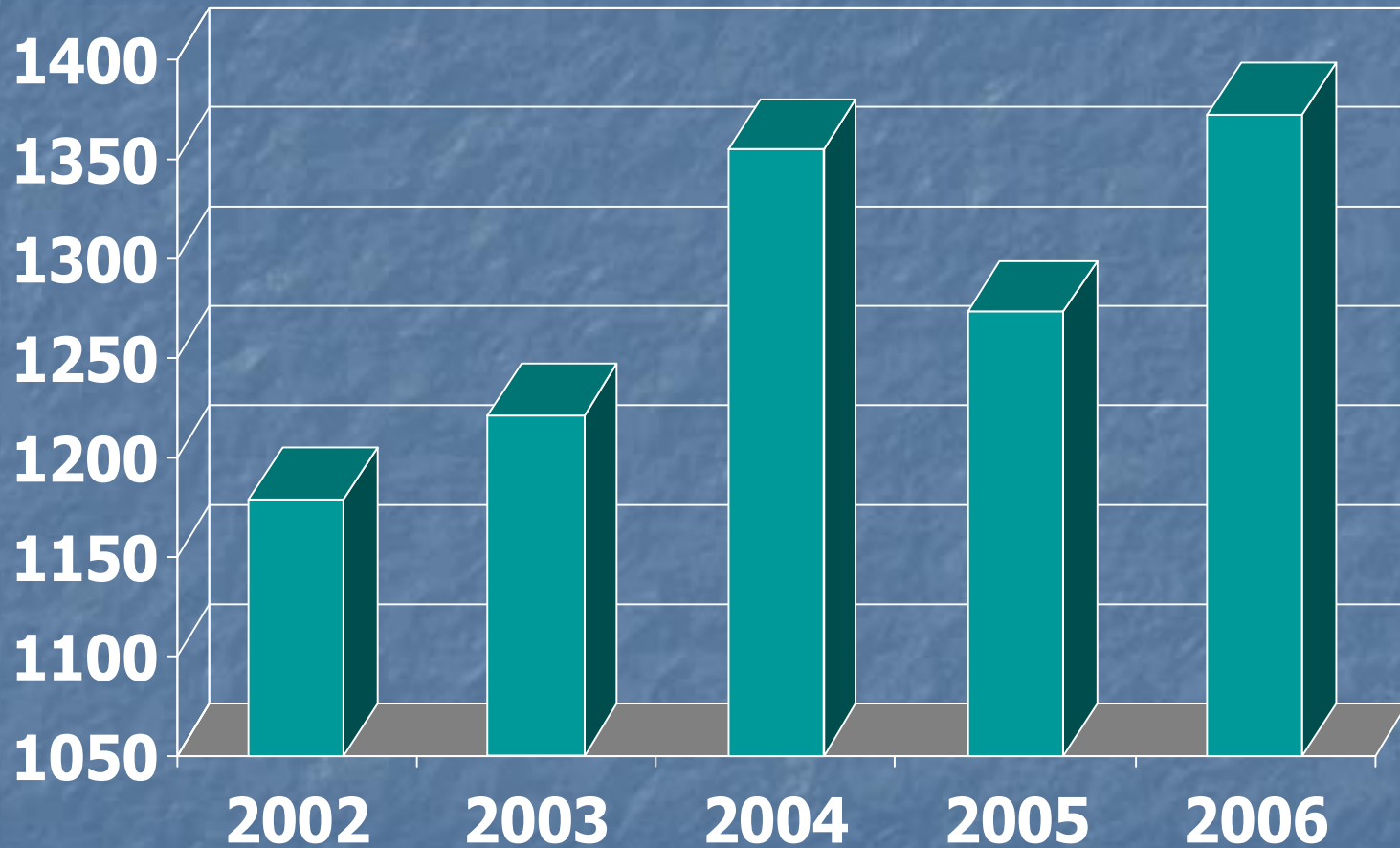




# Fire Incident Reporting

- For every call the Fire Departments respond to, a Fire incident report must be completed by the Fire Marshal's Office and then forwarded to the State Fire Marshal's Office.
- One fire call will generate as many as three incident reports.

# Fire Incident Reports 2001-2006

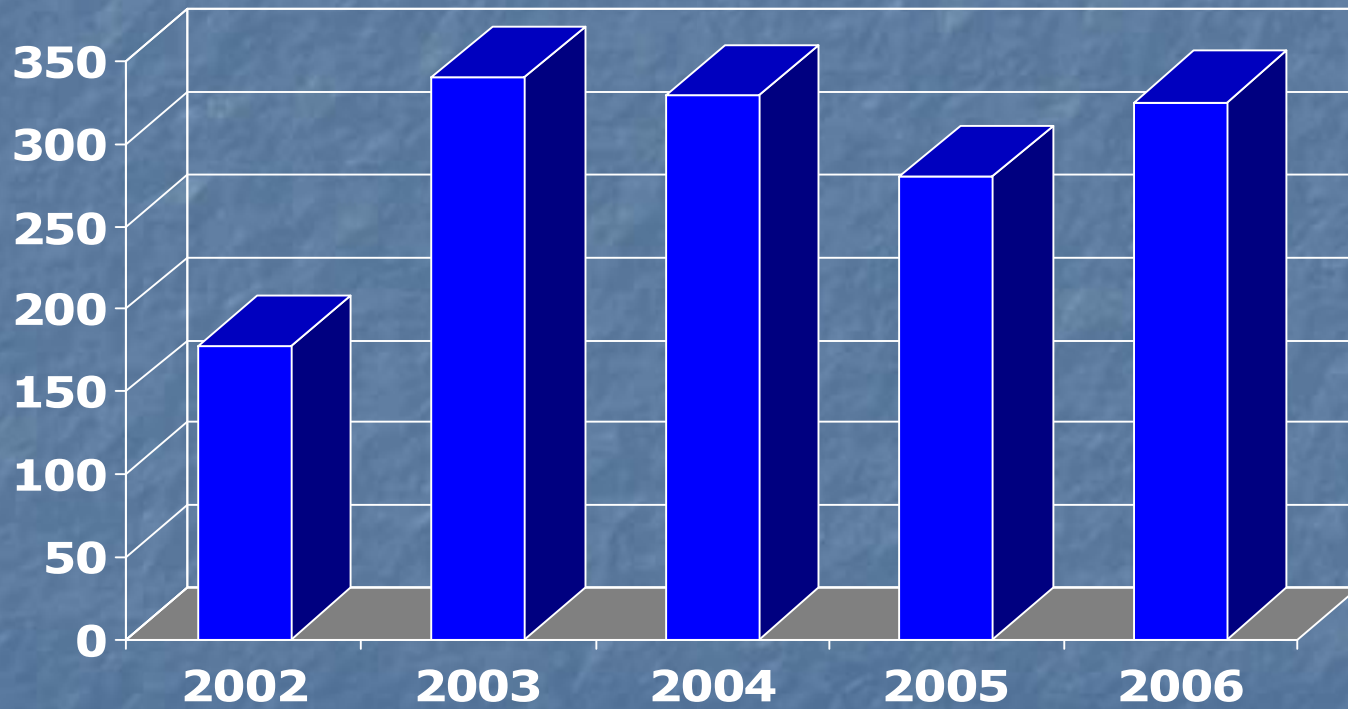


# False Alarm Ordinance Administration

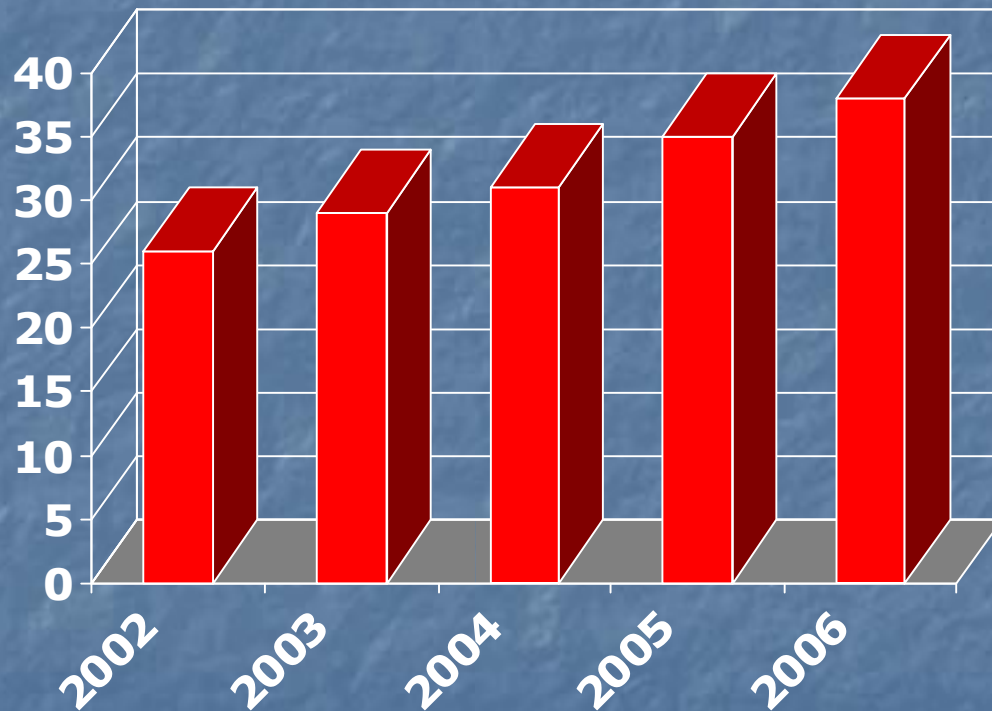
- Bills are sent out on a weekly basis.
- Late fees and interest are assessed monthly and statements are then sent out.
- Process all alarm registrations.
- Appeals, complaints, and tall tales are all heard
- All payments are processed in the office and entered directly into Munis.



# False Alarm Billing

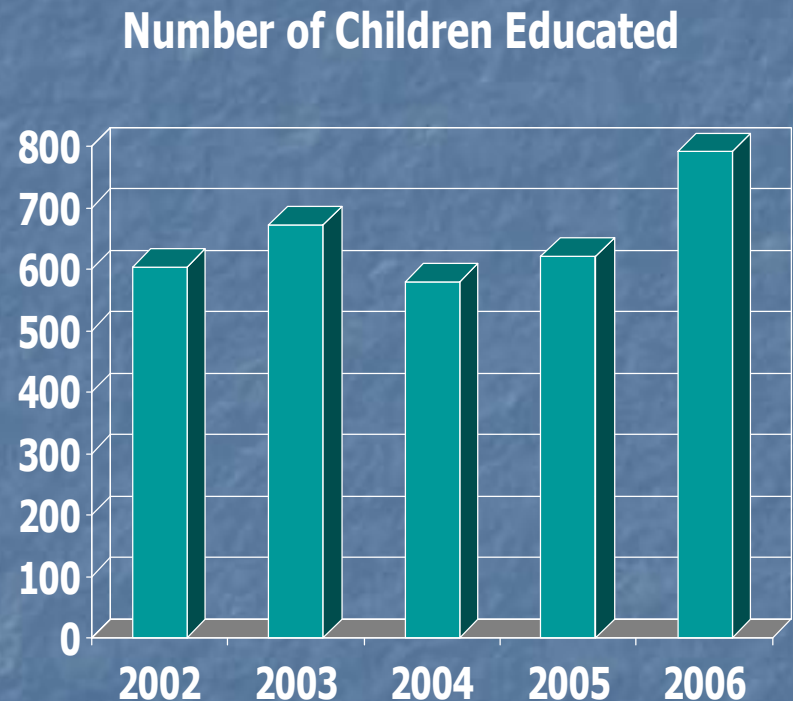


# Public Education programs



# Why do we do Public Education programs?

- Public education is a great means of preventing fires.
- Almost every pre-school child in Darien participates in the program on a yearly basis.
- In addition we do a limited amount of adult Public Education





# Inspections of Existing buildings

- In FY 06 the office conducted 206 “new” inspections of existing businesses in Darien.
- Each new inspection of an existing facility generates at least one re-inspection.
- Prior to the addition of the part time inspector generally the only inspections of existing buildings were those that required a license renewal, or schools.

# Inspection time

- Time to conduct an inspection:
  - Small retail or office space (i.e. Crystal Nail Salon, or Lee's School of Karate) approximately 20 minutes.
  - Larger or more complex spaces (i.e. Kings Highway Tennis, Restaurants, Deli's or Land Rover) approximately 45 minutes to 1 3/4 hours.
  - Very large or specialty spaces (i.e. Darien Health Care, Middlesex School, High School) 2 to 4 hours

- Now that we've completed the inspection we need to send a notice of violation and abatement to the owner; sounds quick and easy enough to do.....not really!
  - We must now go through every violation that we encountered during the inspection, research all of the pertinent codes to verify that it is a violation for that particular occupancy and site the proper section of the Code. This is where things take the most time.



## To Sum it all up

- The duties of the Fire Marshal are a lot broader than what we have covered here; aside from what we have covered here some of the other things that we are also responsible for are:

- Fireworks: Fire Marshal is required to be on site from arrival of the fireworks until the break down after the show.
- Fuel tanks
  - Permits to remove, abandon, or install
  - Review removal/abandonment reports to ensure compliance and input into Access
  - Daily research for lawyers, realtors, homeowners, title searchers on tanks

- Inspections of construction projects throughout the project
- Inspections of Tents
- Fuel oil trucks annual inspections
- Plan Reviews for new or renovation to all buildings excluding 1 or 2 family homes
- On going education to maintain certification; must maintain 90 hours of training every 3 years.